

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/809,880

Examiner

Carol S. Tsai

Applicant(s)

BENCH ET AL.

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2857

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/10/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-23 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

U. S. Patent No. 6,524,123 to Kedrowski et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Kedrowski et al. disclose an evaluator comprising: an electrical connection receptacle mounted on the evaluator board; a connection base mounted on the evaluator board, the connection base being configured to receive an upper surface of a subcomponent; one or more electrical points extending from the exposed surface of the connection base, the one or more electrical points providing a communicable electrical connection between the upper surface of the subcomponent and one or more circuit traces; and a securing mechanism positioned substantially over the connection base. However, Kedrowski et al. do not teach the connection base being positioned opposite the electrical connection receptacle such that the subcomponent is connected to the connection base and electrical connection at two opposing ends when the subcomponents is received and providing a communicable electrical connection between the upper surface of the subcomponent and one or more circuit traces on the evaluator board; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

U. S. Patent No. 6,524,123 to Kedrowski et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Kedrowski et al. disclose an evaluator board for testing one or more subcomponents of a printed circuit board assembly comprising: a printed circuit board; one or more circuitry components for performing one of driving and testing a subcomponent to be tested, the one or

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more circuitry components mounted on both an upper surface and a lower surface of the printed circuit board; one or more receiving components configured to receive the subcomponent to be tested, at least one of the receiving components communicably connected to at least one of the one or more evaluator components. However, Kedrowski et al. do not teach one or more connection points extending from a particular one of the one or more receiving components, the one or more connection points providing a communicable link between the subcomponent to be tested and an evaluator component included in the one or more circuit components; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

U. S. Patent No. 6,524,123 to Kedrowski et al. is the reference closest to the claimed invention. Kedrowski et al. disclose a method of testing a subcomponent of a printed circuit board assembly comprising: placing a subcomponent to be tested on a evaluator board such that an upper surface of the subcomponent fits against at least one of one or more receiving components mounted on the evaluator board; positioning the subcomponent on the evaluator board so that a front end and a back end of the subcomponent are electrically connected to one or more components mounted on a lower surface and an upper surface of the evaluator board; and clamping the subcomponent against the evaluator board, wherein a clamp secures the front end of the subcomponent to be tested against the connection base. However, Kedrowski et al. do not teach placing a subcomponent to be tested on a evaluator board such that an upper surface of the subcomponent fits against at least one of a connection base and an edge connection receptacle which are mounted on the evaluator board and positioning the subcomponent on the evaluator board so that a front end of the subcomponent electrically connects with one or more connection points extending out from the connection base and so that a back end of the subcomponent

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electrically connects to the edge connection receptacle, wherein the front end and the back end are electrically connected to one or more components mounted on a lower surface and an upper surface of the evaluator board; and including all of the other limitations in the respective independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### *Contact Information*

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carol S. W. Tsai whose telephone number is (571) 272-2224. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached on (571) 272-2216. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll-free).

cswt  
October 25, 2005



Carol S. W. Tsai  
Primary Examiner  
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